Scarcity of Text-Books

4372. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the severe scarcity of text-books in some scheduled areas in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government to solve the problem of shortage of text-books in those areas, particularly in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) It is the responsibilities of the State Governments and the State School Boards to publish and distribute textbooks in their areas including in the scheduled areas.

(b) The information has been called for from the Government of Orissa and would be laid on the table of the House, on its receipt from the State Government.

Library Science Education

†4373. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any scheme for development of library science education in the country, in view of its being a developing country;

(b) whether any guideline has been issued to members of Lok Sabha/ Rajya Sabha to allocate funds out of the MPLAD Scheme for construction/ operation of libraries in their respective Parliamentary Constituencies/States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, whether Government propose to formulate any rules/directives in this regard; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) According to the information furnished by University Grants Commission, the Commission provides development grant to Universities for development of Library Science Education.

(b) to (e) Under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) of the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, works as

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.